

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
June 24, 2022



## Engineering:

### Alteri Pool Restoration:

All the Chemical Controller connections and electrical work has been completed. The sealant between the gutter and the pool is complete and the remaining tile work had been completed. The lifeguard chairs have been assembled and installed, and the pool has been filled with water. The project is on pace for completion as scheduled.



### ARPA Water Main Projects:

GHD met with the Engineering Department on June 14<sup>th</sup>, to review their 30% design set for their project (Pratt Street and Sherman Street). They are now making the recommended corrections and will begin putting together their final design set. The bids for the small fittings were opened June 16, and resolutions are being prepared for the chosen bid for the City Council's approval at the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds Grandstand Steel Repair:



Bernier, Carr and Associates met with the Engineering Department Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> to review their 60% design set. Once the necessary corrections have been applied, the final design set can be created along with the project being ready to go out to bid.

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**Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement:**

The framing for the remaining five windows is expected to be shipped out on July 15<sup>th</sup> and should arrive for installation within a week.

**Hydro Plant Relay Repair:**

The final relay was installed on June 10<sup>th</sup>. A breaker failed during testing and a backup breaker had to be installed. Staff recommends that a breaker be ordered to have a backup on hand if need to maintain production.

**Massey St. - Coffeen St. - Court St. Bridge Project:**

Bids for this project were opened on June 21<sup>st</sup>, once the City Council approves the chosen bid, the project will be awarded to the contractor with a letter to proceed.

**Newell St – Black River Crossing Sewer:**

C&S Companies has submitted their report for their evaluation for this project and it is currently being reviewed.



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**Public Square Traffic Signal Project:**

An on-site meeting was held for this project on June 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Seward St – Grant St: Total Road Reconstruction:**

Bernier, Carr & Associates meet with the Engineering Department to review their 75% design plan for this project on June 9th. BCA plans to have 100% design set ready for review by July 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Access Road:**

This project is currently in the construction phase.

**Water Treatment Plant COAG Generator Replacement:**

Specifications for this project have been created and a final bid set is being put together. Once complete, this project will be sent out to bid.



**Water Treatment Plant Maintenance  
Administration Masonry Repointing:**

All repointing is complete, and total finished work is 90% for this project



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## Fire Department:

### Training:

The fire department finished up refresher training on the NYS Foam Taskforce equipment earlier this month. The department houses a state Foam Taskforce trailer at the State Street station. It is available for use in the city or anywhere in the state upon request.



### Rappelling Skills:

The members of the WFD also refreshed their rappelling skills. The stone wall overlooking JB Wise Place makes an ideal place to keep skills sharp.



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**Water Rescue Training:**

This week, the WFD supported the US Border Patrol as they performed water rescue training. Roughly a dozen Border Patrol Officers and their instructors used the department's classroom. On Thursday, the class moved to the Black River under the Court Street Bridge. The WFD puts it's Swiftwater rescue boats in service to support the training and to provide an added margin of safety to the officers.



**Water Department:**

**Water Distribution**

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022,  
Distribution Staff isolated  
valves for private contractors  
to replace leaking valves on a  
fire service at 1222 Arsenal  
Street



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On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022,  
Distribution Staff exercised  
valves for contractors for the  
upcoming YMCA Aquatic  
Center located at 126 Arsenal  
Street

On June 20, 2022,  
Distribution Staff began  
excavation a possible main  
break in the 500 Block of  
Bradley Street. The cause has  
been identified as a leaking  
abandoned service line.



**Wastewater Treatment Plant:**

WWTP personnel began prepping the pad for the grit storage area.



Operators at the WWTP continue rehabilitation work on the primary tank.





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Contractors have commenced road upgrades in the treatment facility and on the access road.



## Parks and Recreation Department:

### The North Country Comic Con:

This event was held at the Watertown Municipal Arena for the first time on June 11th & 12th. Vendors and enthusiasts from all over the North Country attended the event.



### Taylor Playground:

Replacement of the Taylor Playground has begun. The old play structure has been removed and the initial work for the new structure is underway, many new updates are visible on site.

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Concert in the Park: Thursday, June 30, 2022





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## **Police Department:**

### **Recruit Training:**

Our three remaining recruit officers are in their 11th week of supervised field training (FTO program). They are currently in their second week of four "solo" weeks. They are now handling calls with no assistance from their FTO partners. The FTO program is the final step of the police academy training and will lead to graduation and NY State certification.

### **Police Officer Vacancies:**

The Watertown Police Department is looking for lateral transfers (currently certified police officers) and police officer recruit candidates to fill vacant positions. We will be hosting a police officer exam on Saturday, September 17, 2022. The application deadline for the exam is Tuesday, August 16, 2022. Starting salary is \$52,217 (while attending the academy), \$57,274 (upon completion of the academy completion) and \$63,220 after one year. Click on the following link for the civil service announcement and application- <https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/exams>

### **Weapon Charges:**

On June 16, 2022 we charged Benji Reed, a 41-year-old male who resides at 908 Downer Avenue in Utica, NY, with Reckless Endangerment in the first degree, a Class D felony, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the second degree, a Class C felony. Reed was arraigned in Watertown City Court and remanded to the custody of the Lewis County Correctional Facility. The arrest was regarding a complaint that Reed had discharged a firearm during an argument in the City of Watertown last year on July 17, 2021. Reed had additional charges in Lewis County due to being illegally in possession of a loaded firearm during a vehicle stop in Lewis County on June 8, 2022.

The WPD was assisted in this investigation by the Lewis County Sheriff's Office, the New York State Police, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, the Metro Jefferson Drug Task Force.

### **NY Forest Ranger School:**

WPD Sergeant O'Brien instructing at the NY Forest Ranger School.



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**Ground Zero Flag:**

WPD Chief Charles Donoghue and  
WFD Chief Matthew Timerman  
display the “Ground Zero Flag” at  
the South Massey Street Fire Station  
on June 8, 2022

